

## ***Welcome to Walking!***

Walking is a fun, healthy activity that is enjoyed by many people. Learning the traffic and trail rules will allow walking to be as safe as possible. Pedestrian safety is a two-way street—both drivers and walkers must do their part.

### ***Safety Tips for Motorists...***

- Regardless of all other traffic laws, it is the driver's responsibility to do everything necessary to avoid colliding with any pedestrian, even if the pedestrian is not following the law.
- When you see a child or obviously confused or incapacitated person, take whatever precautions are necessary to operate safely and avoid the potential for a collision.
- You must drive at a speed as slow as necessary for safe operation at all times, but particularly around pedestrians and children. This careful and prudent speed may in many cases be slower than the posted speed limit.
- On a roadway without a sidewalk pedestrians may legally walk on the side of the road or shoulder. It is the driver's responsibility to approach and pass such pedestrians safely, exercising the highest degree of care at all times.
- Pedestrians have the right of way in both marked *and unmarked* crosswalks (except at intersections with "Walk" and "Don't Walk" signals—then pedestrians must follow those signals). Drivers are to slow or stop, as necessary, to allow people to cross.
- When one motorist is stopped at a marked or unmarked crosswalk to allow a pedestrian to cross the road, all other drivers must stop, too. Do not pass a vehicle that has stopped to yield to a pedestrian.
- Be especially careful to watch for pedestrians when turning at intersections. The pedestrian usually has the right of way in the marked or unmarked crosswalk you cross when completing your turn. Pedestrians may come from an unexpected direction and may not expect a vehicle to cross their path.
- If you encounter a pedestrian with visual, physical, or hearing impairment who is using a white cane or guide dog, you should slow and take precautions, yielding to that person as necessary.

## ***Safety Tips for Pedestrians...***

- Pedestrians have the right of way at marked *and unmarked* crosswalks (at signalized intersections you must follow the "Walk" and "Don't Walk" signs and other traffic signals). But use common sense!
- Look out for traffic in *all* directions; be especially careful of turning traffic at intersections.
- Give the motorist time to react; do not unexpectedly step out in front of a motorist.
- As a courtesy to other pedestrians, walk on the right-hand side of crosswalks.
- When no crosswalk is present, pedestrians crossing must yield to motorists and are to cross the road by the shortest route (not diagonally unless specifically authorized by signals or markings).
- Except where crosswalks are provided, pedestrians are not to cross streets between signalized intersections, in business districts or when prohibited by local ordinance.
- At railroad crossings and on bridges, follow operation signals and do not cross a barrier or gate that is down.
- Pedestrians must use sidewalks if sidewalks are available.
- Where sidewalks are not present, pedestrians are to walk on the side of the road or shoulder. Walk on the left side, facing traffic, if possible.
- Wear brightly colored and/or reflective clothing.
- Visibility drops in the dark. When walking at night, dawn or dusk, wear or carry reflective articles and/or carry a flashlight.
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing to make sure they see you.
- When available, use pedestrian crossing facilities such as tunnels and bridges.
- Be especially careful crossing multi-lane roads. The motorist in the first lane may stop for you, but motorists in other lanes may not see you or may not realize they must stop. Check for traffic before moving across each lane.
- For more information, see the Revised Statutes of Missouri: 300.010, 300.160, 300.370, 300.375, 300.380, 300.385, 300.390, 300.395, 300.400, 300.405, 300.410, 304.012, 304.080, 304.291.